

Message Text

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64

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-11 AID-05 /085 W

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R 051700Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5133

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 2254

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AR

SUBJECT: RECOGNITION OF NEW GOA

REF: BUENOS AIRES 2157

1. FOREIGN MINISTRY'S OFFICIAL COUNT OF STATES THAT HAVE RECOGNIZED NEW GOA HAS NOW REACHED 62. EMBASSY WAS INCORRECT, HOWEVER, IN INDICATING (REFTTEL) THAT ONLY SOME 64 GOVERNMENTS MAINTAINED RELATIONS WITH ARGENTINA PRIOR TO COUP (WE WERE COUNTING RESIDENT EMBASSIES IN AN OLD DIPLOMATIC REGISTER). IN FACT, ARGENTINA ENJOYED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SOME 89 GOVERNMENTS PRIOR TO THE COUP, 77 OF WHICH MAINTAINED RESIDENT MISSIONS IN BUENOS AIRES. THUS, THERE ARE OVER 20 RECOGNITIONS STILL TO COME IN BEFORE ARGENTINA IS BACK UP TO THE PRE-COUP LEVEL. EVEN SO, ALL MAJOR STATES HAVE NOW RECOGNIZED. SOVIET UNION RECOGNIZED ON APRIL 2. HUNGARY HAS ALREADY FOLLOWED SUIT AND OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN STATES WILL DOUBTLESS DO SO WITHIN NEXT DAY OR SO.

2. IN THIS HEMISPHERE PANAMA AND CUBA ARE ONLY SIGNIFICANT HOLDOUTS (THOUGH TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, JAMAICA AND A FEW OTHER CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES HAVE NOT YET GOTTEN AROUND TO IT EITHER). WE ARE PUZZLED BY PANAMA'S FAILURE TO RECOGNIZE.

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3. CASE OF CUBA REMAINS PUZZLING. EDITOR OF LA OPINION TOLD EMBOFFS PRIVATELY THAT LA OPINION REPORTER HAD BEEN TOLD BY CUBAN EMBASSY THAT THEY HAD ACKNOWLEDGED GOA'S CIRCULAR NOTE AND CONSIDERED THAT AS RECOGNITION. SINCE THEN, ACCORDING TO CUBAN EMBASSY SPOKESMAN, EMBASSY HAS CARRIED ON NORMAL BUSINESS WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY AND OTHER AGENCIES OF GOA. WHEN LA OPINION CHECKED WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY, HOWEVER, THEY WERE TOLD (AS WERE WE--SEE REFTTEL) THAT CUBAN RECOGNITION WAS "CONFIDENTIAL." IT MAY SIMPLY BE THAT GOA IS INSISTING ON SPECIFIC RECOGNITION ON PART OF CUBA RATHER THAN TACIT RECOGNITION IMPLICIT IN VERBAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF NOTE. ON OTHER HAND, WE CONTINUE TO HEAR UNCONFIRMED REPORTS GOA IS UNHAPPY WITH ITS PRESENT RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CUBANS AND MAY BE LOOKING FOR SOME CHANGE.
HILL

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